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WIEDEMANN, ALFRED. Religion of the Ancient Egyptians. With 73 illustrations from the Monuments. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1897. 8vo.

WILSON, JOHN.—An Exposure of the Hindu Religion, in reply to Mora Bhatta Dandekara . . . ; A Second Exposure of the Hindu Religion, in reply to Naráyana Ráo of Satárá . . . Bombay, American Mission Press, 1832, 1834. [2 vols. bound in 1.] 8vo.

WILSON, JOHN.—The Pársi Religion; as contained in the Zand-Avastá . . . etc. [Plate.] Bombay, American Mission Press. 1843. 8vo.

BOOK NOTICES.

Die Meteorologischen Elemente und ihre Beobachtung, mit Ausblicken auf Witterungskunde und Klimalehre. Unterlagen für Schulgemässé Behandlung, sowie zum Selbstunterricht. Von Otto Meissner. Leipzig und Berlin, 1906. Teubner. 8vo. Pp. 94. Figs. 33.

The present volume, which appears in the *Sammlung naturwissenschaftlich-paedagogischer Abhandlungen*, edited by Otto Schmeil and W. B. Schmidt, gives in outline clearly and concisely the more important meteorological facts and theories, in a manner which, as the title implies, is adapted for school use, or for home instruction. The treatment is, however, so superficial that the book could hardly serve as a text-book in any systematic course of instruction in meteorology. The author has been very successful in selecting the salient points for discussion, and the clean-cut, definite statements which are the distinguishing feature of the book are admirably adapted to fix in the minds of young pupils a good idea of the elements of meteorology. There is a brief discussion of the relation between weather conditions and organic life, and of weather forecasting. The derivation of technical terms is given in foot-notes. The illustrations are of the simplest character, but serve sufficiently well. References, except to about a dozen standard books, are not included.

R. DEC. W.

Les Tremblements de Terre. Géographie séismologique. Par F. Montessus de Ballore. With a preface by M. A. de Lapparent. Paris, Librairie Armand Colin, 1906.

The search for the causes of earthquakes is as old as their observation by man, and every nation and every age has had its own theories regarding the solution of the problem. There is hardly any phenomenon of nature which has not, at one time or other, been made responsible for the origin of seismic disturbances. But all these hypotheses had the same fate—while they sufficed to explain the phenomenon in the location where they were first put forth, they gave out as soon as an application to the whole earth was attempted. All these theories can be classified as either exogenous, seeking the origin of earthquakes outside, or endogenous, seeking their origin inside, the earth's crust. Galileo was the first to recognize this fundamental distinction, but not until geology was well developed as a science could an attempt be made to solve the problem. Modern science considers earthquakes as normal incidents which accompany the natural geological processes, and makes only endogenous causes responsible for them: volcanic disturbances, tectonic re-adjustments, or the caving in of subterranean hollows. A